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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): FMC
BIOPOLYMER AS [NO/NO]; Tomtegt. 36, N-3013
Drammen (NO).

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(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): ANDERSEN, Peder, Oscar [NO/NO]; Enoks vei 27, N-1181 Oslo (NO). GÅSERÖD, Olav [NO/NO]; Ole Friises vei 17, N-3053 Steinberg (NO). LARSEN, Christian, Klein [NO/NO]; Lerkesvingen 5, N-2015 Leirsund (NO).

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(54) Title: POLYSACCHARIDE CAPSULES AND METHODS OF PREPARATION

(57) Abstract: The present invention is directed to seamless capsules and methods for making seamless capsules having a high oil content. More specifically, the present invention is directed to seamless capsules, and methods for making seamless capsules, made from a process involving the steps of: (a) preparing an emulsion comprising oil, water, an emulsifier, and at least one of a water-soluble monovalent metal salt, polyvalent metal salt, and an acid, wherein said oil is present in an amount of at least 50% by weight of said emulsion; with the proviso that said emulsion does not contain marmelo mucilage; and (b) adding portions of said emulsion to an aqueous gelling bath comprised of at least one ionic polysaccharide, thereby encapsulating said portions of said emulsion in a polysaccharide gel membrane, and optionally (c) drying the resulting capsules by removing water. The capsule is, for example, an alginate gel. The capsules of the invention are suitable for a variety of applications, e.g. pharmaceutical, nutraceutical, veterinary, agricultural, cosmetic, or food applications.